Cuba Claims Force Beaten

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — The Fidel Castro regime said Monday that its troops had crushed a mini-invasion force in eastern Cuba's rugged mountains.

"The entire group of 13 mercenaries has been put out of battle within a period of a few days," said a Havana radio broadcast monitored in Miami.

The Miami-based exile organization, Alpha 66, which mounted the landing, said it could not confirm that its force had been wiped out and added it will increase its anti-Castro warfare.

The group claimed victory in that "we have opened a new road for the armed fight."

The invaders landed April 17 in extreme eastern Cuba, said Cuban broadcasts. Havana placed casualties at five Castro troops killed and one wounded, and in early battles four invaders killed and five captured.

The four remaining guerrillas later were killed or taken prisoner.

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